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## COMPLEMENTAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY:

Iran

SUBJECT:

Need for US Shipping Service

25X1A

PLACE ACQUIRED:

DATE ACQUIRED:

DATE OF INFO

1 Jul 54 and earlier

25X1X6 SOURCE: received

- l. Iran is badly in med of heavy machinery and supplies of all kinds. For example, steel rails to the amount of nine million sterling have recently been purchased from the UK.
- Merchants and exporters are discouraged by the difficulties encountered in 2. trying to export to the US. They are forced to use UK ships, as a UK company (Strick) provides the only regular steamship service and controls all passenger and goods traffic with the West. Goods shipped to the US must go on UK ships with stopovers in UK ports en route. Often goods are unloaded and stored in warehouses while awaiting another ship going to the US. The expenses of storage and delays (up to seven months in some instances), together with the absence of fixed value for the dollar in the US market, make doing business with the US a real problem.
- 3. If some US shipping company would establish a regular schedule of service with Iran, it would certainly promote trade between the two countries with advantage to both. TIPE AGI-DATE INTU-TIN-BATE AREA Uses of Joreign

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